GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:332
ANSWERED ON:06.08.2002
INSURGENCY/ISI ACTIVITIES IN NORTH EASTERN REGION
GADDE RAMAMOHAN;VIRENDRA KUMAR

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of the insurgency problem and ISI activities in North Eastern States and border areas of Sikkim;

(b) if so, whether the Government have received reports from various States particularly from State Government of Meghalaya and through various intelligence agencies that major underground organizations have set up their camps in these States and the ISI of Pakistan has been very active in the region;

(c) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(d) whether the Chief Ministers of North-East States have demanded for deployment of more Security forces;

(e) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(f) the reaction of the Union Government thereto; and

(g) the steps taken by the Government to check the ISI/militant activities in the North Eastern States particularly in Meghalaya?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I. D. SWAMI)

(a) to (g): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 332 FOR 6.8.2002 RAISED BY SHRI VIRENDRA K AND SHRI RAM MOHAN GADDE REGARDING INSURENCY/ISI ACTIVITEIS IN THE NORTH EASTERN REGION

(a) to (c) & (g): The Government is aware of the insurgency problem and ISI activities in the North Eastern States. The Government has reports that the Pak ISI has been helping the North East militants/terrorists in purchase and transportation of arms consignments from abroad to the North Eastern Region.The reports also indicate that the Pak ISI is providing assistance to the North Eastern militants in terms of money, and has also been motivating misguided youths for training across the border.

According to available reports, the United Liberation Front of Asom (ULFA), National Democratic Front of Boroland (NDFB), Dima halam Daogah (DHD) and United People`s Democratic Solidarity (UPDS) are active in Assam while Hynniewtrep National Liberatio Council (HNLC), Achik National Volunteer Council (ANVC) and Peoples Liberation Front of Meghalaya (PLFM) are active i Meghalaya. In Tripura, two major terrorist outfits viz. All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF) and National Liberation Front of Triupra (NLFT) are active, besides some small tribal terrorist outfits and United Bengali Liberation Front (UBLF). In Manipur, People`s Liberation Army (PLA), United National Liberation Front (UNLF), People`s Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK), Kangleipak Communi Party (KCP),Kanglei Yaol Kanba Lup (KYKL), Manipur People`s Liberation Front (MPLF), Revolutionary People`s Front (RPF) et are active. In Nagaland, National Socialist Council of Nagaland including its faction wings and Front Organizations are active. The above mentioned terrorist outfits have their camps/shelters/hide-outs in these States.

To neutralize activities of ISI agents, Government have adopted a well coordinated and multi-pronged approach which includes strengthening the border management, gearing up of intelligence machinery, well coordinated intelligence based action against ISI agents and militants sponsored by them, setting up of outposts of security forces and modernization and up-gradation of police and security forces with advanced sophisticated weapons and communication system etc. Steps taken in this regard have resulted in detection/neutralization of various ISI backed modules.

Besides, the Government has also taken various steps to protect lives and properties from terrorist outfits in the North Eastern States. These include, inter-alia, deployment of Para-military Forces and Army in the State, coordinated action by Army, Para-military Forces and State Police for counter insurgency operations, declaration of major insurgent groups as unlawful associations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967; declaration of the insurgency affected States as `disturbed area` under the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958; reimbursement of security related expenditure to the State Government and modernization/up-gradation of State Police Forces Regular review of the situation both at State and Central Government levels is being made.

The Government of India have also made appeals to all the militant groups in the North East to give up the path of violence and to come forward for talks within the four corners of the constitution.

(d) to (f): Some North Eastern State Governments have asked for deployment of more security forces in the region. The deployment of these forces depends upon the security scenario prevailing in different parts of the country and availability of these forces. Keeping in view these constraints, Central Paramilitary Forces to the extent possible are deployed in NE States.